

Oak Ridge Reservation

Possible Worker Exposures

Workers were exposed to many types of dangerous substances due to the wide variety of activities on the Oak Ridge Reservation. This includes radiation, uranium, beryllium, nickel oxides, mercury, asbestos, heavy metals, fluorine compounds, welding fumes and solvents.

Public Meeting on Worker Health and Benefits

A public meeting with Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environment, Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels was held on December 8, 1999, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. A transcript from the meeting attended by about 575 is available at <http://www.eh.doe.gov/benefits/meetings/meetings.html>.

Important Contact Information

U.S. Department of Energy Workers' Compensation Helpline (toll-free): **877-447-9756**

U.S. Department of Energy Benefits Website: <http://www.eh.doe.gov/benefits>

Site Background

The Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Reservation opened in 1943. During the Manhattan Project an experimental reactor produced plutonium. The major focus of Oak Ridge operations was the enrichment of uranium. Past operations left a legacy of radioactive and chemical waste, including contaminated soil, groundwater and surface water, on and off the reservation. Today the site's missions include environmental management, research and remanufacturing and dismantling and storing nuclear weapons components. There are three major components of the reservation: the Y-12 weapons plant; the East Tennessee Technology Park, formerly known as K-25; and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The Oak Ridge Reservation today occupies 35,252 acres of land in east Tennessee.

Management and Integrating Contractor:	Bechtel Jacobs Company, LLC manages the East Tennessee Technology Park and environmental cleanup projects Lockheed Martin Energy Systems manages the Y-12 plant UT-Battelle manages the Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Number of current contractor employees:	14,550 (estimated)
Historical number of contractor employees:	137,000 (estimated)